

**Testimony on HB 557 Provisions**  
**Senate Natural Resources Committee**  
**Clint Jacobs, Manager, Dry Prairie Rural Water**  
**March 16, 2009**

**Page 1, Line 17 and 18 1, (a)**

Design and Construction Standards for regional water systems need to remain in place for a period of years and not be subject to change with each construction segment.

**Why?** *Increasing requirements after the project has been reviewed and approved by agencies will increase the costs and impact upon the Federal funding ceiling set by Congress.*

**Page 1, Line 19 and 20 1, (b)**

Deviations from DEQ Standards -when needed- should apply to the entire project, not just the segment that is under review.

**Example:** *Dry Prairie's most recent segment-the McCabe Loop Pipeline- Required 3 deviations requests and approvals. If every segment is required to have the same 3 deviations then: 3 deviations X 30 construction segments equals 90 deviation requests and approvals for the same construction standards.*

**Page 1, Line 21 thru 23 1, (c)**

Standard DEQ design and construction specifications need to be developed for regional water systems.

**Example:** *Present DEQ rules require AWWA Pipe and are generally intended for municipal systems. This standard allows for the heaviest truck loads under the most traveled streets where utility corridors include sewer, power and gas lines.*

*The industry standard for regional water systems in other states is ASTM Pipe and is designed to be installed in croplands and pasture land. Pipe costs will unnecessarily increase by about 25% when using AWWA Pipe instead of ASTM Pipe.*

**Page 1, Line 24 thru 26 2,**

A more timely review period is needed for Regional Water Systems. The present timeline for DEQ approval of project plans and specifications is stated as 60 days. The language of HB 557 will seek to insure that period is realized.

**Example:** *The most recent Dry Prairie project - the McCabe Loop Pipeline required 111 days for approval as follows:*

<i>Days of DEQ review</i>	<i>- initial and 3 pass back reviews = 93 days</i>
<i>Days of Dry Prairie Responses – all pass backs</i>	<i>= 18 days</i>
<i>Total time- July 11 to October 30, '08</i>	<i>111 days</i>

**Page 2, Line 1 thru 3, 3,**

Duplication need to be eliminated.

**Example:** *Each project segment presented for review by DEQ requires a Design Report and Construction & Contract Specifications. Each of these Design Reports contain details such as pipe type to be used, their pressure ratings, and formulas for the water demand by users including the quantity of water per person per day. These items are a repeat of the information provided in each previous project segment.*

*Each regional water system completes a Final Engineering Report (FER). This document provides the Design Report for the entire system and is approved by the Bureau of Reclamation. DEQ review and approval of the FER for the entire project will eliminate the need for a Design Report on each segment. (Each regional water system will likely include 30 segments.)*